

MANY YEARS A CONSUL.

DINNER TO SIR EDWARD M. ARCHIBALD, THE COMPLIMENT OF MANY PROMINENT CITIZENS OF NEW-YORK TO A FAITHFUL OFFICIAL.

A complimentary dinner to Sir Edward M. Archibald was given last night at Delmonico's by prominent citizens of New-York, on the occasion of his retirement from the British Consular Service. An address to the retiring Consul-General, paying a high tribute to his character and services, was signed by over eight hundred prominent citizens and firms of New-York, among them being General U. S. Grant, Hamilton Fish, William M. Evarts, John Jay, Collector Robertson, George W. Lane, S. D. Babbcock, Howard Porter, Royal Phelps, J. D. Verney, John A. Stewart, Charles Dennis, R. G. Balston, T. P. Nash, Richard Irvin, W. H. Appleton, Henry E. Fellow, Morris K. Jesup, Robert B. Minturn, Samuel Sloan, Robert Lenox Kennedy, John G. Dale, R. C. Curtis, William H. Guion, F. J. W. Hurlst, Vernon H. Brown, H. B. Claffin & Co., Arnold, Constable & Co., Lord & Taylor, Low, Harrim & Co., David Davis & Co., Charles Scribner's Sons, Brayton Ives, E. C. Stedman, E. S. Jaffray & Co., J. Pierpont Morgan, and Charles Lauer.

The hall was decorated in excellent taste. On the wall behind the president's chair was a full-length oil painting of Queen Victoria, and this was flanked with the British lion on the right and the stars and stripes on the left. The room was gay with coats of arms surrounded with flags; the mirrors were hung with smilax and immortelles; the balcony was hidden in smilax and other green foliage, and festoons of smilax extended from the centre of the ceiling to the chandeliers.

The guests, nearly 200 in number, entered the dining hall to music from Bernstein's orchestra at 7 p.m., the president, William M. Evarts, leading with Sir Edward on his arm. At the table of honor the retiring Consul-General occupied the seat at Mr. Evarts' right. At the president's left sat John Jay. The others at the president's table were ex-Secretary Hamilton Fish, Judge Noah Davis, Royal Phelps, William E. Dodge, A. A. Low, S. B. Chittenden, John S. Kennedy, Chief Justice Charles E. Daly, the Rev. Dr. William M. Taylor, the British Consul, Pierpont Edwards, and Vice-Counsels W. H. Haase and Gilbert Fraser. There were also present W. Weletsky, the Russian Consul; Henni M. Bratt, the Danish Consul; Christian Bors, the Swedish and Norwegian Consul; G. B. Kao, the Chinese Consul, and Dr. De Umarte, the Spanish Consul. The well-known New-Yorkers at the tables were these:

Samuel B. Bowne; William H. Hinck; Joseph F. O'Neil; Howard Potter; Adrienne Le Poer; George Wilson; James F. Alexander; John B. Trevor; F. F. Marbury; Samuel C. May; Augustus Bierstadt; Elizur F. Shapard; Frederic Taylor; James A. Tamm; James Brown; James Talbot; George W. Lane; William H. Peleg; Edmund Stow; Arthur Brooks; Allan Campbell; James C. Connel; J. A. Verney; John Taylor Johnston; Frederick H. Cosgrave; Frederick C. Weston; Edward C. Corbin; James Henderson; Lucy Aspinwall; Jacob S. Smith; Edward S. Jaffray.

It was expected that Mayor Edson, Hamilton Fish and Rudolph G. Burleigh, the Dutch Consul, would be present, but illness made this impossible.

Vocal music under the direction of James Pearce, the organist of Christ Church, assisted by William Courtney, R. H. Humphries, Eugene Cobb and R. Coggin Morrowska, was a feature of the dinner.

After the blessing had been given by the Rev. Dr. William M. Taylor, the guests took their seats. As the dinner drew to a close, at 9:30 o'clock, the following ladies, who had been occupying an adjoining parlor, entered the room and the applause of the gentlemen, and were conducted to seats on sofas near the entrance: Lady Archibald, Miss Archibald and Miss Urquhart, granddaughter of Sir Edward; Mrs. George DeForest Lord, Mrs. John G. Dale, Mrs. Stephen Webster, the Misses Gorham, Mrs. Lucy Gray and Mrs. Mrs. B. F. Butler, Mrs. William M. Evarts, and Miss Christian Bors.

THE SPEECH-MAKING BEGUN.

A few minutes later Mr. Evarts rose and with vigorous strokes of the gavel called the guests to order. He said:

"My dear gentlemen, thank you for the honor which has been done me by the committee in asking me to preside over so distinguished a company, and to congratulate you still more on being so distinguished a company. [Applause.] But, sir, we have hands—I will not say across the water, for that would be a stretch of politeness that neither of us nations would ever condescend to [laughter]—but, sir, we have hands—I will not say across the water, for that would be a stretch of politeness that neither of us nations would ever condescend to [laughter]—but, sir, we have hands—I will not say across the water, for that would be a stretch of politeness that neither of us nations would ever condescend to [laughter]."

Mr. Evarts then proposed the next toast.

"The Queen of the United Kingdom, which was drunk with cheers and a ringing roar, and again all present joined with enthusiasm in the chorus."

MR. EVARTS'S GREETING.

Mr. Evarts next proposed, amid repeated cheers, "The health of our guest to-night, Sir Edward Mortimer Archibald. For his services in the common interest and prosperity of two great and kindred nations, both countries delight to do him honor."

Mr. Evarts said:

"It gives me, Sir Edward, great pleasure personally and as a representative of New-York, to represent, for the moment, the feeling of this distinguished company which my friends here but excesses the feeling of all the citizens of this great country. To be a member of the office-holders in a responsible—[laughter]—it seems somewhat stupendous."

"One of the earliest experiences of life which we have known, to Mr. Archibald, whom we have known [applause], and to Sir Edward Archibald, whom we are happy to see, is that we are doing ourselves a greater pleasure than we can offer him. In our appreciation of him, of his character and services, we feel that we may pride ourselves in the good man whom we make him. [Applause.]"

"The most impressive memory which we have had of our friend, John Jay, is that he came to the Consul-General whom we have known, to Mr. Archibald, whom we have known [applause], and to Sir Edward Archibald, whom we are happy to see, is that we are doing ourselves a greater pleasure than we can offer him. In our appreciation of him, of his character and services, we feel that we may pride ourselves in the good man whom we make him. [Applause.]"

"The speech-making began.

"The guest of the evening, wearing his decorations of the Orders of St. Michael and St. George, and of the Bath, replied as follows:

"I feel myself truly at a loss for words with which to express to you, Mr. Chairman, my grateful sense of the kind manner in which, referring to my official career, you have, in terms of high compliment, addressed me."

"My personal health and my sincere thanks to all of you, gentlemen, for the enthusiastic manner in which you have received that toast. Neither am I able adequately to express my feelings in that connection."

"That the manner in which they have been presented is to me, or my return from the public service, of infinite value, and I hope it will be a source of great pleasure to all of you, gentlemen, for the remainder of my life."

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